## Intelligent Reflecting Surface assisted RF Energy Harvesting Mobile Edge Computing NOMA Networks: Performance Analysis and Optimization

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## Abstract

In this paper, we focus on the performance analysis and optimization of an RF energy harvesting (EH) mobile edge computing (MEC) network by the assistance of the intelligent reflecting surface (IRS) and non-orthogonal multiple access (NOMA) schemes. Specifically, a pair of users harvest RF energy from a hybrid access point (HAP) and offloads their tasks to the MEC server at HAP through wireless links by employing an IRS-aided and uplink NOMA scheme. To evaluate the performance of this proposed system, the closed-form expressions of successful computation and energy transfer efficiency probabilities are derived. We further formulate a multi-objective optimization problem and propose an algorithm to find the optimal energy harvesting time switching ratio value to achieve the best performance, namely SENSGA-II. Moreover, the impacts of the network parameters are provided to draw helpful insight into the system performance. Finally, the Monte-Carlo simulation results are shown to confirm the correctness of our analysis. The results have shown that the deployment of IRS can improve the performance of this considered RF EH NOMA system by increasing the number of reflecting elements.

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**Keywords:** mobile edge computing, intelligent reflecting surface, radio frequency energy harvesting, non-orthogonal multiple access, successful computation probability, energy consumption probability

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### 1. Introduction

In recent years, the Internet of Things (IoT) has been proliferating and applied in many different areas, e.g., industry, agriculture, transportation, military, and so on. Many latency-sensitive applications exist, such as virtual reality, autonomous driving, and interactive online gaming [1]. The mobile edge computing (MEC) approach has been proposed to support new applications and services that have significant data with latency constraints [2–4]. In the MEC paradigm, the servers with

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powerful computation ability move to the edge of the network to aid users in executing tasks via wireless links.

In fact, MEC has been proposed in many scenarios and has shown a positive impact when improving the performance of ultra-reliable and low latency communications (URLLC) systems [5, 6]. The authors in [5] recommend a digital twin metaverse based on MEC that guarantees real-time requirements. Specifically, industrial IoT devices are connected to the access point (AP) via the URLLC link and get the computation as well as caching supporting services to reduce system latency. An alternating optimization approach solves the latency optimization problem. The results show that the proposed optimization model and algorithm improve system performance. A case study on MEC is presented



in [6], which presents the design of a MEC system with task offloading and resource allocation requirements. Besides theoretical calculations, the authors also build an experimental model based on Intel's hardware, namely the EdgeFlow system. Experimental results show that the system can improve the computational efficiency from 15 to 45% compared to the local computing system.

However, many challenges are still posed when implementing IoT based on MEC systems in practice. Besides the limited computing capability of mobile edge devices, they are often equipped with energy-limited batteries to ensure dimensions standards. Accordingly, radio frequency (RF) power transfer is a new approach to supply energy for wireless devices based on RF waves [7, 8]. This solution is expected to prolong the life of network connections, extend coverage range, and improve communication network performance. RF power stations can be built independently of the MEC network as dedicated RF power stations, microwave stations, and TV towers [9]. In addition, RF power stations can also be integrated with access points called hybrid stations [10–12]. In [12], the authors investigate the MEC model applied in industrial IoT using RF energy harvesting (EH). In particular, two industrial sensor clusters operate according to the cluster head mechanism to collect radio energy from the hybrid AP to offload the tasks to the MEC server. Experiments of EH time, transmit power, task length, and the number of SNs in each cluster are analyzed to clarify the efficiency of the proposed MEC-based system.

Besides, billions of devices connected to IoT applications can create a complex operating scenario. It leads to orthogonal multiple access techniques such as FDMA and TDMA use of frequency or time resources which may not work inefficiency. The non-orthogonal multiple access (NOMA) approaches are considered a solution to improve spectrum efficiency, fair power distribution, and enhance network performance [13– 16]. In [15], the authors investigated a two-user SISO NOMA MEC uplink model, which was supported by offloading to an AP. The simulation results show that incorporating the NOMA technique in the MEC network can significantly improve system performance compared to the traditional approach. For a more complex model, in [16], the authors studied a system model of a wireless sensor network with two groups of NOMA users and a multi-antenna access point, in which the best antenna and user selection scheme are used to enhance the performance of the NOMA MEC system.

In addition, to improve the performance of the wireless communication system, the intelligent reflecting surface (IRS) was proposed and attracted much research attention [17–19]. The IRS consists of a two-dimensional passive element array, where each element can independently create some change to the incident signal, e.g., the phase, amplitude, and frequency. IRS can

be placed between transmitters and receivers, e.g., on a building wall, to create an intelligent communication environment. It is a cost-effective solution to enhance the performance of B5G and 6G wireless communication networks; thus, it has attracted increasing interest as a hot research topic [20–24]. For instance, the authors in [24] investigate the RIS-assisted communication downlink model for MIMO networks. Specifically, the base station communicates with users via RIS panels deployed in unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). The system is proven to deliver outstanding performance in terms of total network throughput and worst-case throughput of the users.

To the best of our knowledge, a few works focused on the combination of IRS and/or wireless power transfer and NOMA in MEC networks [25-27]. In [25], the NOMA and TDMA schemes of an IRS-aided two-NOMA-user MEC system are investigated to clarify the integration of IRS and NOMA in MEC networks. The results showed that NOMA is better than TDMA for the sum delay minimization when the users' cloudcomputing time is sufficiently short. The integration of RF EH, IRS, and NOMA into MEC networks was studied in [26], where a hybrid access point provides RF energy and computing services to multiple NOMA users. Under the dynamic IRS beamforming framework for NOMA and TDMA schemes, computation rate maximization problems were formulated and solved by jointly optimizing the IRS passive BF and the resource allocation. A system model of a pair of near and far NOMA users and an IRS to assist the far user in offloading tasks is investigated in [27]. The performance analysis of this IRS-aided MEC network was studied by deriving the closed-form expression of successful computation probability.

In this work, we extend the work of [27], where the integration of RF EH, IRS, and NOMA is combined into the MEC system. Specifically, we consider the scenario where two users harvest energy from the hybrid access point (**HAP**) and offload their tasks to the server located at **HAP** with the assistance of an IRS. The main contributions of our paper are as follows:

- A quadra-phase protocol for RF EH IRS-aided mobile edge computing system based on the NOMA scheme is proposed.
- The considered system's closed-form expressions of successful computation and energy transfer efficiency probabilities are derived.
- The multi-objective optimization problem with two objective functions, i.e., successful computation probability and energy transfer efficiency probability, is formulated under the constraint of the time switching ratio. Accordingly, an algorithm



based on a genetic algorithm, namely SENSGA-II, is proposed to find the optimal front to achieve the best performance for this proposed system.

• The impact of network parameters, e.g., transmit power, time switching ratio, bandwidth, and task bit allocation, on the system performance is examined by numerical results to verify the efficiency and effectiveness of RF EH, IRS, and NOMA deployment in the MEC network.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. Section II presents the proposed system model. The performance analysis and optimization of this considered system are provided in Section III. The numerical results and discussion are shown in Section IV. Finally, we draw a conclusion for our work in Section V.

## 2. System and Channel Model

We describe the notations used in the next part of this paper in Table 1.

IADLE I. NOTATIONS		
Notation	Meaning	
$m_i, m_H$	Fading severity factor of Nakagami- $m$	
δ	Path-loss exponent	
$\mathbf{h_1} \in \mathbb{C}^{1  imes 1}$	The small-scale fading vector of $\mathbf{U}_1$ –	
	HAP link	
$\mathbf{h_2} \in$	The small-scale fading vector of $\mathbf{U}_2$ –	
$\mathbb{C}^{N \times 1}$	<b>IRS</b> links	
$\mathbf{H} \in \mathbb{C}^{1  imes N}$	The small-scale fading vector of	
	HAP - IRS links	
N	Number of reflecting elements of IRS	
$P_0$	Transmit power of <b>HAP</b>	
$\gamma_0$	Average transmit SNR	
$\eta$	Energy conversion efficiency	
f	CPU-cycle frequency of <b>HAP</b>	
ξ	The number of required CPU cycles for	
	each bit of $\mathbf{HAP}$	
W	Channel bandwidth	
L	The length of the task	

TABLE 1. Notations

We consider an RF EH IRS NOMA MEC system depicted in Fig. 1 and the time flowchart of this considered system is shown in Fig. 2.

Due to the real-time requirement and limited computation resources, a pair of energy-constrained users  $\mathbf{U}_i$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ , cannot implement their tasks locally. Hence, they harvest RF energy from a hybrid access point (**HAP**) to offload the tasks to a MEC server located at **HAP**, which has outperformed the computation resource. There are blocking objects between users and **HAP** in many practical scenarios. The signal of users cannot reach **HAP** and vice versa.



Figure 1. System Model for RF Energy Harvesting IRS-assisted MEC Network



Figure 2. Time flowchart of the considered RF EH IRS-assisted MEC system

In this work, we assume that  $U_1$  is near to **HAP** without blocking objects. Meantime,  $U_2$  is far from **HAP** and there are blocking objects between  $U_2$  and  $U_1$  as well as  $U_2$  and **HAP**. Thus, an **IRS** consisting of N reflecting elements is deployed in the cell to assist  $U_2$ 's transmission. Assuming that the element spacing of the IRS is high enough so that the small-scale fading associated with two different reflecting elements is independent. Moreover, all devices are assumed to have a single antenna and operate in the half-duplex mode. For the sake of simplicity,  $U_i$  is assumed to have a number of tasks with the same length of  $L_i$  bits for offloading.

We denote **H**, **h**<sub>1</sub>, and **h**<sub>2</sub> as the small-scale fading vectors of **HAP** – **IRS**, **HAP** – **U**<sub>1</sub>, and **U**<sub>2</sub> – **IRS** links, respectively. More specifically, they are **H** =  $[g_{11}, g_{12}, ..., g_{1N}]$ , **h**<sub>1</sub> =  $[h_1]$  and **h**<sub>2</sub> =  $[h_{21}, h_{22}, ..., h_{2N}]^T$ , respectively.  $d_1$ ,  $d_{21}$  and  $d_{22}$  denote the distances from **HAP** to **U**<sub>1</sub>, **HAP** to **IRS** and from **U**<sub>2</sub> to **IRS**, respectively.  $\alpha_1 \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (d_1)^{-\delta}$ ,  $\alpha_2 \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (d_{21}d_{22})^{-\delta}$  stand for distance-based large-scale path loss where  $\delta$  denotes the path loss exponent.

The transmission protocol of this considered system, namely an EH-IRS-MEC scheme, can be divided into four phases.

- Phase 1 (energy harvesting): **HAP** transfers the RF energy to  $\mathbf{U}_i$  during the time of  $\tau_1 = \alpha T$ , where  $\alpha$  denotes the time switching ratio, i.e.,  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , and



T stands for transmission block time. Note that, **IRS** assists **HAP** in transferring RF energy to **U**<sub>2</sub>.

The harvested energy of  $\mathbf{U}_1$  and  $\mathbf{U}_2$  during the duration of  $\alpha T$  are respectively written as

$$E_1 = \eta P_0 |h_1|^2 \alpha T, \tag{1}$$

$$E_2 = \eta P_0 |\mathbf{H} \Phi \mathbf{h}_2|^2 \alpha T, \qquad (2)$$

where  $0 < \eta \leq 1$  stands for the energy conversion efficiency of the receiver [28], and  $P_0$  denotes the transmit power of **HAP**.

- Phase 2 (task offloading):  $\mathbf{U}_1$  and  $\mathbf{U}_2$  an apply uplink NOMA scheme to offload their tasks to MEC server with the help of **IRS** during the time of ( $\tau_2$ ). The received signal of offloading tasks at **HAP** is expressed as

$$y = h_1 \sqrt{\alpha_1 P_{U_1}} s_1 + \mathbf{H} \Phi \mathbf{h_2} \sqrt{\alpha_2 P_{U_2}} s_2 + w, \qquad (3)$$

where  $P_{U_i}$  represents the transmit power of the  $i^{th}$  user,  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ ;  $s_i$  denotes the offloading task of the  $i^{th}$  user,  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ ;  $w \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, \sigma^2)$  represents the AWGN at **HAP**.  $\Phi \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \text{diag} \left[\beta_1 e^{j\theta_1}, \beta_2 e^{j\theta_2}, ..., \beta_N e^{j\theta_N}\right]$ , where  $j = \sqrt{-1}$ ,  $\beta_n \in [0, 1]$  and  $\theta_n \in [0, 2\pi)$ ,  $n \in \{1, ..., N\}$ , are the amplitude-reflection and phase-shift variable of the  $n^{th}$  element of IRS. The duration of Phase 2 is calculated as:

$$\tau_2 = \max_i \left\{ \frac{L_i}{W \log_2\left(1 + \gamma_i\right)} \right\},\tag{4}$$

where  $L_i$  and  $W_i$  stand for the task length and channel bandwidth with respect to  $\mathbf{U}_i$ , respectively.  $\gamma_i$  denotes the signal-to-interference-plus-noise ratio (SINR) and the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) at **HAP** to decode  $s_i$ .

- Phase 3 (task executing): In this phase, the successive interference cancellation (SIC) is applied at **HAP** to mitigate the inter-user interference. At this time, **HAP** detects the signal  $s_i$  separately and decodes and computes the tasks of  $P_{U_i}$  during the time of  $\tau_3$ . The duration of Phase 3 is given by:

$$\tau_3 = \frac{\xi L}{f}.\tag{5}$$

- Phase 4 (result downloading): At last, during the time of  $\tau_4$ , **HAP** returns the computing results to users by applying the downlink NOMA scheme. In this work, we assume that  $\tau_4$  is very small compared to  $\tau_1$ ,  $\tau_2$  as well as  $\tau_3$  and thus is omitted ( $\tau_4$ =0) [11, 15].

The transmit power of  $\mathbf{U}_1$  and  $\mathbf{U}_2$  are respectively given by

$$P_{U_1} = \frac{\eta P_0 |h_1|^2 \alpha T}{(1 - \alpha)T} = a P_0 X, \tag{6}$$

$$P_{U_2} = \frac{\eta P_0 |\mathbf{H} \mathbf{\Phi} \mathbf{h}_2|^2 \alpha T}{(1-\alpha)T} = a P_0 Y, \tag{7}$$

where  $a \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \frac{\eta \alpha}{(1-\alpha)}, X \stackrel{\Delta}{=} |h_1|^2, Y \stackrel{\Delta}{=} |\mathbf{H} \Phi \mathbf{h_2}|^2.$ 

By applying SIC, according to (3), the SINR and SNR at **HAP** to decode  $s_i$  are respectively obtained as follows:

$$\gamma_1 = \frac{a\gamma_0\alpha_1 X^2}{a\gamma_0\alpha_2 Y^2 + 1},\tag{8}$$

$$\gamma_2 = a\gamma_0\alpha_2 Y^2, \qquad (9)$$

where  $\gamma_0 \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \frac{P_0}{\sigma^2}$  is the transmit SNR.

Note that, to improve the transmit environment, the parameters of IRS are reconfigured to obtain the best channel quality, i.e., to maximize Z = $|\mathbf{H}\Phi\mathbf{h}_2| = |\sum_{n=1}^N \beta_n g_{1n} h_{2n} e^{j\theta_n}|$ . It means that the phase-shift variables can be adjusted to obtain  $Z_{\max} =$  $\sum_{n=1}^N \beta_n |g_{1n}| |h_{2n}|$ . For the sake of simplicity, we assume  $\beta_n = 1, \forall n$ . Thus, according to [Lemma.2, [23]], the probability density function (PDF) and the cumulative density function (CDF) of  $Z_{\max} = \sum_{n=1}^N |g_{1n}| |h_{2n}|$  are expressed as

PDF:

$$f_Z(x) = \frac{m^N}{\Gamma(2m_s N)} x^{2m_s N - 1} e^{-2\sqrt{m_s m_l}x}, \quad (10)$$

CDF:

$$F_Z(x) = \frac{m^N (4m_s m_l)^{-m_s N}}{\Gamma(2m_s N)} \gamma(2m_s N, 2\sqrt{m_s m_l}x),$$
(11)

where  $m_s = \min\{m_H, m_2\}, \quad m_l = \max\{m_H, m_2\},$   $m = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}4^{m_s - m_l + 1}(m_s m_l)^{m_s} \Gamma(2m_s) \Gamma(2m_l - 2m_s)}{\Gamma(m_s) \Gamma(m_l) \Gamma(m_l - m_s + \frac{1}{2})}, \quad m_H \text{ and } m_2$ denote the Nakagami-*m* fading parameters;  $\gamma(.,.)$  is the lower incomplete gamma function.

#### 3. Performance Analysis and Optimization

This section describes the performance analysis of this proposed system in terms of the successful computation and energy consumption probabilities. Furthermore, we formulate the optimization problem and propose the solution to solve this.

#### 3.1. Performance analysis

We describe the performance analysis of this proposed IRS-aided MEC system in terms of successful computation probability and energy consumption probability.

The successful computation probability ( $\Phi_s$ ) is an important measure that is useful for system designers to evaluate the latency performance of the MEC networks [15].  $\Phi_s$  is defined as the probability that all tasks are successfully executed within a required time  $T_{th}$ . For this proposed system,  $\Phi_s$  is expressed as

$$\mathbf{\Phi}_{\mathbf{s}} = \Pr\left(\tau_1 + \tau_2 + \tau_3 + \tau_4 \le T_{th}\right). \tag{12}$$



Due to  $\tau_1 = \alpha T = \alpha (T_{th} - \tau_3)$ ,  $\Phi_s$  can be rewritten as

$$\mathbf{\Phi}_{\mathbf{s}} = \Pr\left[\tau_2 \le (1 - \alpha)T\right],\tag{13}$$

where  $T = T_{th} - \frac{\xi L}{f}$ . To evaluate the latency performance of this proposed RF EH IRS-assisted MEC system with NOMA scheme, the **Lemma 1** is derived as follows:

Lemma 1. In this considered RF EH IRS-aided MEC NOMA system, the closed-form expression of the successful computation probability  $\Phi_{s}$  is given by

$$\Phi_{\mathbf{s}} \approx \frac{\pi a_0 m^N}{2Q_1 \Gamma (2m_s N)} \sum_{k=0}^{m_1-1} \sum_{q=1}^{Q_1} \frac{m_1^k}{k! \lambda_1^k} (-\ln t_q)^{2m_s N-1} \\
\times \left[ b_1 (-\ln t_q)^4 + b_2 \right]^{\frac{k}{2}} e^{-\frac{m_1}{\lambda_1} \sqrt{b_1 (-\ln t_q)^4 + b_2}} \\
\times \frac{e^{-2\sqrt{m_s m_l} (-\ln t_q)}}{t_q} \sqrt{1 - x_q^2}, \quad (14)$$

where  $a_0 = e^{-\frac{4}{\sqrt{b_0}}}$ ,  $b_0 = \frac{\gamma_2^{th}}{a(1-\rho)\alpha_2\gamma_0}$ ,  $b_1 = \frac{\gamma_1^{th}(1-\rho)\alpha_2}{\rho\alpha_1}$ ,  $b_2 = \frac{\gamma_1^{th}}{a\rho\gamma_0\alpha_1}$ ,  $\gamma_1^{th} = 2\frac{L_1}{WT^*} - 1$ ,  $\gamma_2^{th} = 2\frac{L_2}{WT^*} - 1$ ,  $T^* = (1-\alpha)\left[T_{th} - \frac{\xi L}{f}\right]$ ,  $L = L_1 + L_2$ ,  $x_q = \cos\left(\frac{2q-1}{2Q_1}\pi\right)$ ,  $t_q = \frac{(x_q+1)a_0}{2}, \ Q_1$  is the complexity-vs-accuracy trade-off coefficient.

#### *Proof.* See in Appendix A.

Moreover, the energy transfer efficiency is also an important performance metric that is used to characterize how much energy is actually transferred to offload in RF EH MEC networks.

**Definition 1.** The energy transfer efficiency (EFE) is defined as the ratio of instantaneous transferred energy to the corresponding instantaneous total offloading rate.

For this proposed system, EFE is given by

$$\mu_e = \frac{E_{trans}}{R_{total}},\tag{15}$$

 $\gamma_i$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ .

**Remark 1.** In contrast to common energy efficiency defined in existing works [29, 30], we define the EFE from the instantaneous perspective to show the transferred energy and instantaneous data rate simultaneously. Obviously,  $\mu_e$  is a random value. Thus we consider its statistical property.

**Definition 2.** The energy transfer efficiency probability (EEP), denoted by  $\Psi_{e}$ , is defined as the probability that the energy transfer efficiency falls below a predetermined threshold  $\psi_{th}$ .

For this proposed system,  $\Psi_{\mathbf{e}}$  is expressed as

$$\Psi_{\mathbf{e}} = \Pr\left(\mu_e < \psi_{th}\right). \tag{16}$$

To evaluate the energy performance of this proposed RF EH IRS-aided MEC system, we derive the following Lemma 2 as follows:

**Lemma 2.** In this proposed RF EH IRS-aided MEC NOMA system, the closed-form expression of the energy transfer efficiency probability  $\Psi_{\mathbf{e}}$  is expressed as

$$\Psi_{\mathbf{e}} \approx 1 - F_{Z}(a_{1}) + \frac{\pi a_{1}m^{N}}{2Q_{2}\Gamma\left(2m_{s}N\right)} \sum_{k=0}^{m_{1}-1} \sum_{q=1}^{Q_{2}} \frac{m_{1}^{k}}{k!\lambda_{1}^{k}} \\ \times u_{q}^{2m_{s}N-1} \left[c_{1} - c_{2}u_{q}^{4}\right]^{\frac{k}{2}} e^{-\frac{m_{1}}{\lambda_{1}}\sqrt{c_{1}-c_{2}u_{q}^{4}} - 2\sqrt{m_{s}m_{l}}u_{q}} \\ \times \sqrt{1 - x_{q}^{2}}, \tag{17}$$

where  $\gamma_{th} = 2^{\frac{\alpha T P_0}{(1-\alpha)W\psi_{th}}}$ ,  $c_1 = \frac{\gamma_{th}-1}{a\gamma_0\alpha_1}$ ,  $c_2 = \frac{\alpha_2}{\alpha_1}$ ,  $a_1 = \sqrt[4]{\frac{c_1}{c_2}}$ ,  $x_q = \cos\left(\frac{2q-1}{2Q_2}\pi\right), u_q = \frac{(x_q+1)a_1}{2}, Q_2$  is the complexity-vs-accuracy trade-off coefficient.

*Proof.* See in Appendix B.

#### 3.2. Optimization: Problem formulation and solution

We are interested in the design optimization problem to jointly optimize the SCP and EEP for the RF EH IRS-aided NOMA MEC system as follows:

$$(P1): \max_{\alpha} (\Phi_s, \Psi_e) \tag{18a}$$

subject to: 
$$0 \le \alpha \le 1$$
 (18b)

where (P1) belongs to the class of multi-objective optimization problems, here specifically, maximizing SCP and EEP. Constraint (18b) describes the condition of the time allocation factor of the users. From the performance definitions of the proposed system, it is easy to see that SCP and EEP are two correlated objective functions; i.e., maximizing SCP could negatively result in EEP maximization; and vice versa. Therefore, the optimal outcome (P1) is not unique but a set of optimal results, representing the best correlation between SCP and EEP. For single-objective optimization, the fitness values (FV) of objective function always have complete order because when considering any two FVs; namely  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$ , there always exist two cases are  $\Omega_1 < \Omega_2$  or  $\Omega_1 \geq \Omega_2$ . However, for the problem (P1), we need to use the dominant concept to compare the FVs, as follow

**Definition 3.** A feasible solution  $\alpha_1$  dominates over the solution  $\alpha_2$  with  $\alpha_1 \neq \alpha_2$ , denoted by  $\alpha_1 \preceq \alpha_2$ , if and only if,

$$\begin{cases} \Phi_s(\alpha_1) \le \Phi_s(\alpha_2) \\ \Psi_e(\alpha_1) \le \Psi_e(\alpha_2) \\ \Phi_s(\alpha_1) < \Phi_s(\alpha_2) || \Psi_e(\alpha_1) > \Psi_e(\alpha_2) \end{cases}$$
(19)



In this study, we use the Pareto curve to represent the optimal group of results (P1) [31]. A solution is the Pareto optimal if any others do not outperform it in the objective space. The set of possible solutions that are not dominated is called the Pareto optimal set, and their corresponding FVs are called Pareto Front (PF). Accordingly, we transform the objective functions so that (P1) can be expressed by PF. Specifically, the compensation functions of SCP and EEP, i.e.,  $\overline{\Phi_s} = 1 - \Phi_s$ ,  $\overline{\Psi_e} = 1 - \Psi_e$ , will be used as the objective function, and the problem is transformed into determining the PF of the minimum functions. Thus, the proposed multiobjective optimization problem is rewritten as follows:

$$(P2): \min\left(\overline{\Phi_s}, \overline{\Psi_e}\right) \tag{20a}$$

subject to: 
$$0 \le \alpha \le 1$$
 (20b)

We propose to use the Non-dominated Sorting Genetic Algorithm II (NSGA-II) to determine the PF [32] for (P2), namely SENSGA-II. The SENSGA-II is a stochastic evolutionary multi-objective algorithm constructed based on combining two algorithms: genetic algorithm (GA) [33] to select and develop optimal individuals and crowding distance algorithm to get a reasonable distribution of optimal points on the PF [34]. Basic GA genetics concepts and operations, including crossover, mutation, and natural selection, are also used. The difference between the multi-objective and single-objective GA algorithms is in the fitness assignment, and how to maintain the elite population. The detailed presentation of SENSGA-II algorithm is given in **Algorithm 1**, specifically as follows:

• Step 1: Randomly initialize  $n_{Pop}$  individuals  $p_i, (i = 1, ..., n_{Pop})$  for the population  $\mathbb{P}$ , where each element contains a gene that is also a solution of (P2) and satisfies (18b), i.e.,  $\alpha$ . Thus, in the  $t^{th}$  generation, the population is described by the formula:

$$\mathbb{P}(t) = (\alpha_1(t), \alpha_2(t), \dots, \alpha_{n_{Pop}}(t)), \qquad (21)$$

- Step 2: Calculate the fitness value of the objective functions that need to be optimized simultaneously, i.e., SCP and EEP, for  $\mathbb{P}(t)$ .
- Step 3: Call the Non-dominated Sorting (NdS) procedure, which uses (19) to determine the ranking of the input  $\mathbb{P}(t)$ . NdS assigns a first rank, namely  $\mathcal{F}(1)$ , to individuals that are not dominant in the population and excludes them from consideration. Then find a new set of non-dominated individuals to assign a second rank and so on until all individuals  $p_i$  are checked,  $p_i \in \mathbb{P}(t)$ . Thus, the output of NdS is a set of individuals sorted by ranking, namely  $\mathcal{F}(k)$ , where k is the

index of ranking. Details of NdS steps are given in **Algorithm 2**.

• Step 4: Call the Crowding distance calculator (CDC) procedure with the input  $\mathcal{F}(k)$ . This step aims to find the sum of Euclidean distances from each individual to two neighboring solutions in each front based on two objective functions. Thereby, CDC estimates the density of solutions surrounding the solution under consideration, as follows:

$$\mathcal{CD}_{p_i} = \sum_{\Omega \in \{\Phi_s, \Psi_e\}} \frac{\Omega(p_{i+1}) - \Omega(p_{i-1})}{\Omega_{max} - \Omega_{min}}, \qquad (22)$$

where  $\mathcal{CD}_{p_i}$  is the crowding distance of  $p_i$ ,  $\Omega_{max}$ and  $\Omega_{min}$  are the maximum and minimum of the fitness values, respectively, when using the objective function  $\Omega$ ,  $\Omega \in \{\Phi_s, \Psi_e\}$ . Details of CDC steps are given in **Algorithm 3**.

- Step 5: The parent is selected based on their rank and crowding distance as follows: randomly select two solutions; if they have the same non-domination rank  $\mathcal{F}(k)$ , the solution which has  $\mathcal{CD}_{p_i}$  higher will be chosen; otherwise, the solution with the lower rank will be selected. All selected parents are added to the matching pool to prepare for the crossover process.
- Step 6: Arithmetical crossovers [35] were used in this study to crossbreed the parent  $p_i$  and  $p_j$ . Let  $\zeta_c$  be the crossover percentage. Two offspring individuals are given by the formula:

$$p_{h1}(t+1) \leftarrow \delta_c p_i + (1-\delta_c)p_j, p_{h2}(t+1) \leftarrow \delta_c p_j + (1-\delta_c)p_i,$$
(23)

where  $\delta_c$  is an uniform arithmetical crossover factor, that is randomly chosen from 0 to 1.

• Step 7: In this step, non-uniform mutation, as (24), is applied such that the probability approaches zero as the number of evolution rounds increases. It makes the mutation operator efficient in the early stages of the algorithm, having a more negligible effect on the population as it evolves into the late stages.

$$\begin{cases} p_m(t) \leftarrow p_m(t) + (\alpha_{max} - p_m(t))\Delta, \tau = 0\\ p_m(t) \leftarrow p_m(t) - (p_m(t) - \alpha_{min})\Delta, \tau = 1 \end{cases}$$
(24)

where  $\Delta = 1 - r^{\left(1 - \frac{t}{MaxIt}\right)^{\delta_b}}$ , r is randomly chosen from 0 to 1,  $\delta_b$  is selected following the level of dependency on the maximum number of iterations,  $\tau$  is the random number that may have zero or one. Let  $\zeta_m$  be the crossover percentage. Let the set of offspring based on the GA process be  $\mathbb{Q}(t)$ .



- Step 8: The NdS and CDC procedures are called to evaluate the elite-preservation population, denoted  $\mathbb{O}$ , which is the combination set of  $\mathbb{P}(t-1)$  and  $\mathbb{Q}(t)$ , i.e.,  $\mathbb{O}(t) = \mathbb{P}(t-1) \cup \mathbb{Q}(t)$ .
- Step 9: Select  $n_{Pop}$  elite individuals based on  $\mathcal{F}(k)$ and  $\mathcal{CD}_{p_i}$  which hold in Step 8. If the number of individuals belong to  $\mathcal{F}(1)$  is less than  $n_{Pop}$ , the entire  $\mathcal{F}(1)$  will be selected into  $\mathbb{P}(t+1)$ . The rest will be taken from the  $\mathcal{F}(k)$ , until enough  $n_{Pop}$ individuals. The set of  $p_i$  belong to  $\mathcal{F}(1)$  is stored in *PF*. This process continues until the end of evolution.

**Algorithm 1** SCP and EEP maximization based on NSGA-II (SENSGA-II)

**Input:**  $\Phi_s, \Psi_e, n_{Pop}, MaxIt$ **Output:** *PF* 

- 1: Initialize:  $t \leftarrow 0, \mathbb{P}(0)$
- 2: Evaluate  $\mathbb{P}(0)$  using (14) and (17)
- 3: Call: Non-dominated Sorting procedure (NdS) with  $\mathbb{P}(0)$
- 4: **Call**: Crowding distance calculator procedure (CDC) with  $\mathbb{P}(0)$
- 5: while  $t \leq MaxIt$  do
- $6: \qquad t \leftarrow t+1$
- 7: Choose  $\mathbb{Q}(t)$  following ranking  $\mathcal{F}(k)$  and crowding distance  $\mathcal{CD}_{p_i}$  of  $p_i \in \mathbb{P}(t-1)$
- 8: Crossover for  $\mathbb{Q}(t)$  using (23)
- 9: Mutation for  $\mathbb{Q}(t)$  using (24)
- 10:  $\mathbb{O}(t) = \mathbb{P}(t-1) \cup \mathbb{Q}(t)$
- 11: **Call:** NdS with  $\mathbb{O}(t)$
- 12: **Call**: CDC with  $\mathbb{O}(t)$
- 13: Updated  $\mathbb{P}(t)$
- 14: Store PF
- 15: end while
- 16: Return PF

We further investigate the algorithm complexity of SENSGA-II as follows: In **Algorithm 2**, we perform rankings for  $2n_{Pop}$  instances belonging to  $\mathbb{O}(t)$  with two nested loops. In each loop, we evaluate two objective functions  $\overline{\Phi}_s$  and  $\overline{\Psi}_e$  with algorithmic complexity of  $m_1Q_1$  and  $m_1Q_2$ , respectively. Thus, the total number of operations required for this procedure is:

$$\Upsilon_1 = m_1 (Q_1 + Q_2) (2n_{Pop})^2. \tag{25}$$

For **Algorithm 3**, the sorting and comparison algorithm is applied to  $2_{nPop}$  instances with two objective functions, so the total number of operations required for this procedure is as follows:

$$\Upsilon_2 = m_1 (Q_1 + Q_2) (2n_{Pop}) \log(2n_{Pop}).$$
(26)

Algorithm 2 Non-dominated Sorting procedure (NdS)

## Input: $\mathbb{P}(x)$

- Output:  $\mathcal{F}(k)$
- 1: Init k = 1 is the ranking index
- 2:  $\mathcal{F}(k) = \emptyset$
- 3: for  $p_i \in \mathbb{P}(x) \setminus \mathcal{F}(k)$  do
- 4: Init  $nonD_p = \emptyset$  is the set containing all the individuals that are not dominant than  $p_i$
- 5: Init  $D_p = 0$  is the number of individuals that dominated  $p_i$
- 6: **for**  $p_j \in \{\mathbb{P}(x) \setminus \mathcal{F}(k), p_i\}$  **do**
- 7: **if**  $p_i \leq p_j$  **then**
- 8:  $nonD_p = nonD_p \cup p_j$
- 9: else
- $D_p = D_p + 1$
- 11: **end if**
- 12: **if**  $D_p == 0$  **then**
- 13:  $\mathcal{F}(k) = \mathcal{F}(k) \cup p_i$
- 14: **end if**
- 15: k = k + 1
- 16: **end for**
- 17: **end for**
- 18: Return  $\mathcal{F}(k)$

Algorithm 3 Crowding distance calculator procedure (CDC)

Input:  $\mathcal{F}(k)$ Output:  $\mathcal{CD}_{p_i}$ 1: Assign n is the number of individuals in  $\mathcal{F}(k)$ 2: for i = 2 : (n - 1) do 3: Init  $\mathcal{CD}_{p_i} = 0$ 4: Init  $\mathcal{CD}_{p_1} = \mathcal{CD}_{p_n} = \infty$ 5: Calculate  $\mathcal{CD}_{p_i}$  using (22) 6: end for 7: Return  $\mathcal{CD}_{p_i}$ 

Finally, the elite individual  $n_{Pop}$  natural selection operation has a complexity of:

$$\Upsilon_3 = (2n_{Pop})\log(2n_{Pop}). \tag{27}$$

The overall complexity of the SENSGA-II algorithm is:

$$\mathcal{O}(\Upsilon_1 + \Upsilon_2 + \Upsilon_3) = \mathcal{O}(m_1(Q_1 + Q_2)(2n_{Pop})^2). \quad (28)$$

To evaluate the convergence of SENSGA-II, we use the diversity metric [32], denoted by  $\mathcal{D}$ , which measures the extent of spread achieved among the obtained solutions. The lower  $\mathcal{D}$ , the better convergence of the algorithm.

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{(D_{e1} + D_{e2} + \sum_{i=1}^{n} |D_i - \overline{D}|}{D_{e1} + D_{e2} + (n-1)\overline{D}}$$
(29)

where  $D_{e1}$  and  $D_{e2}$  are the Euclidean distances from the extreme solutions to the neighboring solutions, respectively, for the two objective functions,  $\overline{D}$  is the average Euclidean distance of PF.



#### 4. Numerical Results and Discussion

This section analyzes the system behaviors in terms of SCP and EEP in the uplink RF EH IRS-aided NOMA MEC system. Furthermore, the simulation results are also provided to verify analytical results. Unless otherwise defined, the investigation parameters configuration is depicted in TABLE 2 [36].

Parameters	Notation	Typical Values
Environment		Nakagami- <i>m</i>
Fading parameters	$m_{H_1}, m_{h_1}, m_{H_2}, m_{H_2}, m_{h_2}$	$\begin{array}{ccc} 3.0, & 2.5, \\ 2.5,  1.5 \end{array}$
Distances	$d_1, d_{21}, d_{22}$	$   \begin{array}{ccc}     10, & 30, \\     20   \end{array} $
Energy conversion coefficient	$\eta$	0.75
Number of IRS elements	N	1, 3, 10
Transmit SNR	$\gamma_0$	10-40 dB
Path-loss exponents	δ	2, 2.5
CPU-cycle frequency of	f	1 GHz
HAP		
The number of CPU cycles/bit	ξ	2
Channel bandwidth	W	1 MHz
The threshold of latency	$T_{th}$	0.01 s
The threshold of energy con- sumption	$\psi_{th}$	3 uJ
Number of points for Gaussian-Chebyshev quadrature method	P,Q	50
The maximum number of iterations	MaxIt	300
The population size	$n_{Pop}$	100
The crossover percentage	$\zeta_c$	0.9
The mutation percentage	$\zeta_m$	0.002

**TABLE 2.** Simulation Parameters

# 4.1. Impacts of average transmit SNR and the number of IRS elements

The impact of average transmit SNR ( $\gamma_0$ ) and the number of IRS elements (N) on the performance of the plotted system is shown in Fig. 3. The solid lines are curves describing the SCP, while the dashed lines represent the EEP of the system. We find that the analyzes of SCP and EEP are accurate as all simulation results coincide with the corresponding analytical results derived from (16) and (17). The first observation that can be drawn is that all three curves describing the system's SCP have the same form as increasing as  $\gamma_0$  increases. In other words, system performance improves when  $\gamma_0$ has an excellent value. It is evident that because  $\gamma_0$ increases, the user is supported more in terms of energy and improves the efficiency of the offloading process.



Figure 3. Impacts of average transmit SNR and the number of IRS elements

Nevertheless, when  $\gamma_0$  gets too high, i.e.,  $\gamma_0$  exceeds 30 dB, the SCP tends to saturate.

Meanwhile, EEP tends to be the opposite of SCP, i.e., as  $\gamma_0$  increases, EEP decreases. The reason is that EEP represents energy efficiency used, smaller EEP means high energy consumption, and conversely, large EEP means good energy efficiency. It is explained as follows: as  $\gamma_0$  increases, that is, the transmit power at the HAP increases, and the energy used during offloading also increases, resulting in reduced energy efficiency gradually. Therefore, the trade-off between SCP and EEP is a concern when designing the proposed system. The transmit power parameters from the HAP need to be considered to ensure optimal SCP while keeping the EEP at an appropriate value. It also highlights the necessity of deploying multi-objective optimization algorithms for the proposed RF EH IRS-assisted NOMA MEC system.

Another observation mentioned is the significant dependence of SCP and EEP on N. Furthermore, as expected, as N increases, both SCP and EEP improve. The reason arises from two aspects. First, when increasing N, the different signal paths from HAP towards  $U_2$  are added to the system, thus improving channel rank and spatial multiplexing gain. Second, the larger N is, the more energy can be collected by  $U_2$  in the EH phase, resulting in enough power to use during the offloading phase, contributing to the elevation of the system's SCP. Furthermore, IRS reflectors can support  $U_2$  energy collection without any transmit RF chains, so EEP will be significantly improved.

#### 4.2. Impacts of the time switching ratio

The effect of the time switching ratio ( $\alpha$ ) on SCP and EEP is depicted in Fig. 4. We focused on observing the lines describing the SCP with the values  $\gamma_0$  being





Figure 4. Impacts of the time switching ratio

20 dB, 30 dB, and 40 dB, respectively. The obtained results show that SCP is a unimodal function according to the parameter  $\alpha$ , i.e., SCP has only one maximum in the range  $\alpha$  in [0, 1]. Thus, it is necessary to use the optimal algorithm to find  $\alpha^*$  such that SCP reaches its maximum value. The dependence on  $\alpha$  is evident because the SCP difference when  $\alpha$  changes are substantial: when  $\alpha$  is slight, i.e.,  $0 < \alpha < 0.2$  or when  $\alpha$  approaches 1, the system's SCP is very low. It means that the system has a high probability of not completing tasks within the maximum allowable delay time. Equations (1) and (2) explain this: when  $\alpha$  is too low, the energy collected by the user is not enough for them to perform offloading, resulting in low SCP. Meanwhile, when  $\alpha$  is high, the time to offload and compute decreases, and the system does not have enough time to reach the offloading target, i.e., low SCP. In contrast, the system obtains high SCP with an adequately designed  $\alpha$  coefficient. Another observation, the trend in EEP in Fig.4 shows low energy efficiency as  $\alpha$  increases. According to (6) and (7), an increase in  $\alpha$  leads to a rise in the user's transmit power, resulting in a decrease in EEP.

# 4.3. Impacts of the length of task and the bandwidth

Fig. 5 describes the effect of task length  $(L_1)$  on SCP and EEP in three different bandwidth scenarios, W =1 MHz, W = 2MHz, and W = 3 MHz. The system's SCP decreases as the task sequence length increases. It is consistent with formula (4) because the task sequence length is proportional to the offloading time  $tau_2$ . Furthermore, as  $L_1$  increases, the total number of bits that the HAP needs to process also increases, resulting in an increase in the computation time of  $tau_3$  in phase 3. In short, the larger the offload bit sequence, the more budget time is required for offloading and processing,



Figure 5. Impacts of the task length and the bandwidth

resulting in SCP degradation. The impact is enormous when the system's bandwidth is low. Observing the curve describing SCP when W = 1 MHz, we see its slope is steep: L increases from 2 kB to 7 kB, then SCP decreases up to 10 times. Continuing to compare with the SCP signal in the other two cases, we conclude that the larger the bandwidth, the better the SCP of the system. Furthermore, increasing bandwidth also positively affects EEP: i.e., as W increases, so does EEP, meaning increased energy efficiency. Therefore, bandwidth is a parameter that needs special attention when designing the RF EH IRS NOMA MEC system in practice.

More interestingly, the system EEP descriptor curve does not change with the change of task sequence length, and this trend is consistent for all three cases of bandwidth change. It can be explained by formula (17)when EEP is an independent function of the variable  $L_1$ . In terms of physical significance, we only consider EFE in terms of energy dissipated during transmission and investigate its statistical characteristics. Accordingly, EEP is expressed independently of the constraint in terms of maximum system latency, which depends on task sequence length as observed in SCP lines. Thus, in terms of the EEP perspective, the system is only required to meet the given energy threshold, regardless of the transmission rate. In simpler terms, the system can operate in a way that transmits bits at a slow data rate while holding the EFE condition, thereby allowing the desired EEP to be achieved.

### 4.4. Optimal algorithm experiments

Fig. 6 shows the non-dominated solutions obtained after 200 generations with SENSGA-II, with the average transmit power being 30 dB. We extract three solutions, A(0.8813, 0.521), B(0.9276, 0.3755), and C(0.9984, 0.9984)





**Figure 6.** The Pareto front shows the optimal results for the two goals of (P2).

(0.323) in PF, to compare with the random one D(0.96, 0.4) taken in the feasible solution space. Obviously, solution A has minimum  $\overline{\Phi_s}$  and maximum  $\overline{\Psi_e}$ , while solution C has maximum  $\overline{\Phi_s}$  and minimum  $\overline{\Psi_e}$ . It means that there is no superior solution between these two solutions. Continuing, the solution pair B and also belongs to PF because the compensation SCP is better than C's, while the compensation EEP of C is better. Next, we compare solution D with C, and we observe that the second goal of solution C is better than D, but conversely, the first goal of solution D is better than C. Thus, if we do not use the PF, D would belong to the same ranking as solution C. However, our solution demonstrates the fact that solutions C and B are not dominant over each other, but solution D is dominated by B. Therefore, D is not optimal and is a dominant solution. The concept of the multi-objective optimal solution is confirmed as shown in the formula (19).

Another comment is that compensation SCP increases to 0.9984, then compensation EEP will decrease and reach a limit (value is 0.323) and cannot be reduced further. Meanwhile, when the compensation EEP increases to 0.8813, the compensation SCP will decrease and reach the limit value of 0.521. The results show that if the design option favors SCP optimization, then solution A should be chosen. If the option favors EEP optimality, solution C should be selected, or if the balance is between SCP and EEP, solution B should be chosen.

Finally, we investigate the convergence of SENSGA-II using the diversity metric in Fig. 7. Initially, a high value of  $\mathcal{D}$  indicates that the solutions are not asymptotic to PF. Then the value  $\mathcal{D}$  decreases if we continue increasing the maximum number of iterations. We see that the convergence trend slows down, showing that



**Figure 7.** The convergence of SENSGA-II based on diversity metric.

the solutions are distributed more and more uniformly. The subgraph depicting the diversity metric at loops 250 to 300 shows that over 50 evolutions,  $\mathcal{D}$  only improved by approximately 0.03. In the last loops,  $\mathcal{D}$  converged to 0.0621 and could not improve further. Although the  $\mathcal{D}$  value has dropped to a deficient and acceptable level after the MaxIt loop, the optimal value of 0 has not yet been reached. This also demonstrates in Fig. 6, when multiple spaces on the PF are not covered. It shows that the approaches to solving multi-objective optimization problems based on meta-heuristic such as SENSGA-II have high efficiency, but the obtained result is always at a near-optimal level. Furthermore, the dependence on initialization parameters based on a GA-based algorithm must be done in the next studies.

**Remark 2.** From Figs. 3-6, we can observe that the analysis and simulation results are matching very well. It means that the correctness of our analysis has been verified.

#### 5. Conclusion

This paper has studied the system performance and optimization of IRS-assisted RF EH MEC NOMA networks under Nakagami-*m* fading. Specifically, we investigate the NOMA-MEC model for two edge-users who need to offload tasks to proximity HAP. An IRS element is deployed to the system to support the far-user operations. Accordingly, we propose a protocol for the system consisting of 4 phases, namely the energy harvesting phase, offloading phase, data processing phase, and result downloading phase. We evaluate system performance based on two parameters, SCP and EEP, and detect their trade-offs. Therefore, we state a multi-objective maximization problem for SCP and EEP with the constraint of time switching



ratio. We propose a low complexity algorithm, namely SENSGA-II, to determine the PF of the optimization problem. Next, we use the Monte-Carlo simulation to confirm the correctness of the theoretical analysis. The simulation results show that the system performance is highly dependent on parameters such as transmit power, time switching coefficient, task sequence length, and bandwidth. Furthermore, the PF obtained SENSGA-II indicates that extreme solutions and other optimal solutions are better than the solution of randomly choosing the  $\alpha$  parameter.

In our future work, we will investigate the RF EH MEC NOMA system with multiple IRS assisting two users in energy harvesting and task offloading. We will apply other multi-objective optimization algorithms such as NSGA-III or MOPSO to reference the results obtained in this study.

#### Appendix A. Proof of Lemma 1

This appendix provides the detailed proof for Lemma 1. According to (14), we have:

$$\begin{split} \Phi_{\mathbf{s}} &= \Pr\left(\frac{L_{1}}{W \log_{2}\left(1+\gamma_{1}\right)}+(1-\alpha)\frac{\xi L}{f} < (1-\alpha)T_{th}, \\ &\frac{L_{2}}{W \log_{2}\left(1+\gamma_{2}\right)}+(1-\alpha)\frac{\xi L}{f} < (1-\alpha)T_{th}\right) \\ &= \Pr\left(\gamma_{1} > 2^{\frac{L_{1}}{WT^{*}}}-1, \gamma_{2} > 2^{\frac{L_{2}}{WT^{*}}}-1\right) \\ &= \Pr\left(\frac{a\gamma_{0}\alpha_{1}X^{2}}{a\gamma_{0}\alpha_{2}Y^{2}+1} > \gamma_{1}^{th}, a\gamma_{0}\alpha_{2}Y^{2} > \gamma_{2}^{th}\right) \\ &= \Pr\left(X > \sqrt{b_{1}Y^{2}+b_{2}}, Y > \sqrt{b_{0}}\right) \\ &= \int_{\sqrt[4]{b_{0}}}^{\infty} \left[1-F_{X}\left(\sqrt{b_{1}z^{4}+b_{2}}\right)\right] f_{Z}(z)dz, \end{split}$$

where  $L = L_1 + L_2$ ,  $T^* = (1 - \alpha) \left[ T_{th} - \frac{\xi L}{f} \right]$ ,  $\gamma_1^{th} = 2 \frac{L_1}{WT^*} - 1$ ,  $\gamma_2^{th} = 2 \frac{L_2}{WT^*} - 1$ ,  $b_0 = \frac{\gamma_2^{th}}{a\alpha_2\gamma_0}$ ,  $b_1 = \frac{\gamma_1^{th}\alpha_2}{\alpha_1}$ ,  $b_2 = \frac{\gamma_1^{th}}{a\gamma_0\alpha_1}$ . Moreover,  $F_X(x)$  is the CDF of  $X = |h_1|^2$  follows the Nakagami-*m* fading model with fading parameter  $m_1$ . Thus, it is given by

$$F_X(x) = 1 - \sum_{k=0}^{m_1-1} \frac{m_1^k x^k}{k! \lambda_1^k} e^{-\frac{m_1 x}{\lambda_1}}, \qquad (A.1)$$

where  $\lambda_1 = \mathbb{E}[|h_1|^2]$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[.]$  stands for the expectation operator. Note that it is NLoS for  $m_1 = 1$  and is LoS for  $m_1 > 1$ .

Substituting (10) and (A.1) into  $\Phi_s$ , we obtain

$$\begin{split} \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{\mathbf{s}} &= \frac{m^{N}}{\Gamma\left(2m_{s}N\right)} \sum_{k=0}^{m_{1}-1} \frac{m_{1}^{k}}{k!\lambda_{1}^{k}} \int_{\sqrt[4]{b_{0}}}^{\infty} z^{2m_{s}N-1} \\ &\times \left(b_{1}z^{4} + b_{2}\right)^{\frac{k}{2}} e^{-\frac{m_{1}}{\lambda_{1}}\sqrt{b_{1}z^{4} + b_{2}} - 2\sqrt{m_{s}m_{1}}z} dz \\ &\stackrel{(1)}{=} \frac{m^{N}}{\Gamma\left(2m_{s}N\right)} \sum_{k=0}^{m_{1}-1} \frac{m_{1}^{k}}{k!\lambda_{1}^{k}} \int_{0}^{a_{0}} (-\ln t)^{2m_{s}N-1} \\ &\times \left(b_{1}(-\ln t)^{4} + b_{2}\right)^{\frac{k}{2}} e^{-\frac{m_{1}}{\lambda_{1}}\sqrt{b_{1}(-\ln t)^{4} + b_{2}}} \\ &\times \frac{e^{-2\sqrt{m_{s}m_{l}(-\ln t)}}}{t} dt \\ &\stackrel{(2)}{\approx} \frac{\pi a_{0}m^{N}}{2Q_{1}\Gamma\left(2m_{s}N\right)} \sum_{k=0}^{m_{1}-1} \sum_{q=1}^{Q_{1}} \frac{m_{1}^{k}}{k!\lambda_{1}^{k}} (-\ln t_{q})^{2m_{s}N-1} \\ &\times \left[b_{1}(-\ln t_{q})^{4} + b_{2}\right]^{\frac{k}{2}} e^{-\frac{m_{1}}{\lambda_{1}}\sqrt{b_{1}(-\ln t_{q})^{4} + b_{2}}} \\ &\times \frac{e^{-2\sqrt{m_{s}m_{l}(-\ln t_{q})}}}{t_{q}} \sqrt{1-x_{q}^{2}}, \end{split}$$

where Step (1) is obtained by replacing  $t = e^{-z}$ and  $a_0 = e^{-\sqrt[4]{b_0}}$ . Step (2) is held by applying the Gaussian-Chebyshev quadrature method with  $Q_1$  is the complexity-vs-accuracy trade-off coefficient,  $x_q = \cos\left(\frac{2q-1}{2Q_1}\pi\right)$ ,  $t_q = \frac{(x_q+1)a_0}{2}$ . This concludes our proof.

#### Appendix B. Proof of Theorem 2

This appendix provides the detailed proof for Theorem 2.  $\Psi_{\mathbf{e}}$  is calculated as follows:

$$\begin{split} \Psi_{\mathbf{e}} &= \Pr\left(\frac{P_{0}\alpha T}{\sum_{i=1}^{2}(1-\alpha)W\log_{2}(1+\gamma_{i})} < \psi_{th}\right) \\ &= \Pr\left[(1+\gamma_{1})(1+\gamma_{2}) > \gamma_{th}\right] \\ &= \Pr\left(a\gamma_{0}\alpha_{1}X^{2} > \gamma_{th} - a\gamma_{0}\alpha_{2}Y^{2} - 1\right) \\ &= \int_{0}^{a_{1}} \left[1 - F_{X}\left(\sqrt{c_{1} - c_{2}z^{4}}\right)\right] f_{Z}(z)dz + \int_{a_{1}}^{\infty} f_{Z}(z)dz \\ &= 1 - F_{Z}(a_{1}) + \frac{m^{N}}{\Gamma\left(2m_{s}N\right)} \sum_{k=0}^{m_{1}-1} \frac{m_{1}^{k}}{k!\lambda_{1}^{k}} \int_{0}^{a_{1}} z^{2m_{s}N-1} \\ &\times \left(c_{1} - c_{2}z^{4}\right)^{\frac{k}{2}} e^{-\frac{m_{1}}{\lambda_{1}}\sqrt{c_{1} - c_{2}z^{4}} - 2\sqrt{m_{s}m_{l}z}} dz \\ &\stackrel{(3)}{\approx} 1 - F_{Z}(a_{1}) + \frac{\pi a_{1}m^{N}}{2Q_{2}\Gamma\left(2m_{s}N\right)} \sum_{k=0}^{m_{1}-1} \sum_{q=1}^{Q_{2}} \frac{m_{1}^{k}}{k!\lambda_{1}^{k}} \\ &\times u_{q}^{2m_{s}N-1} \left[c_{1} - c_{2}u_{q}^{4}\right]^{\frac{k}{2}} e^{-\frac{m_{1}}{\lambda_{1}}\sqrt{c_{1} - c_{2}u_{q}^{4}} - 2\sqrt{m_{s}m_{l}}u_{q}} \\ &\times \sqrt{1 - x_{q}^{2}}, \end{split}$$

where  $\gamma_{th} = 2^{\frac{\alpha T P_0}{(1-\alpha)W\psi_{th}}}$ ,  $c_1 = \frac{\gamma_{th}-1}{a\gamma_0\alpha_1}$ ,  $c_2 = \frac{\alpha_2}{\alpha_1}$ ,  $a_1 = \sqrt[4]{\frac{c_1}{c_2}}$ . Step (3) is derived by applying the Gaussian-Chebyshev quadrature method with  $Q_2$  is the complexity-vs-accuracy trade-off coefficient,  $x_q = \cos\left(\frac{2q-1}{2Q_2}\pi\right)$ ,  $u_q = \frac{(x_q+1)a_1}{2}$ . This ends our proof.



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